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TUESDAY, 31 MARCH 1998

No. 1998/61 (PART I)

PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA

SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Tuesday, 31 March 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Fifty-second session

4 p.m.

82nd PLenary MEETING

General Assembly Hall

1. Request by the President of the General Assembly for the reopening of the consideration of agenda item 97 (a) (Sustainable development and international economic cooperation: renewal of the dialogue on strengthening international economic cooperation for development through partnership) (A/52/836) [8].
2. Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments:
 - (a) Appointment of members of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/52/674/Rev. 1/Add. 1) [17 (e)];
 - (b) Appointment of members and alternate members of the United Nations Staff Pension Committee: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/52/676/Add. 1) [17 (g)].
3. Financial reports and audited financial statements, and reports of the Board of Auditors: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/52/732/Add. 1) [113].
4. Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/52/746/Add. 1) [114].
5. Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/52/743/Add. 1) [115].
6. Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999: report of the Fifth Committee (Part III) (A/52/744/Add. 2) [116].

Note: The PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS AND AGENDA and the SUMMARY OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS of bodies other than those of the General Assembly at its fifty-second session appear in PART II (English/French) of the present issue of the Journal (No. 1998/61 (PART II)).

7. Joint Inspection Unit: report of the Fifth Committee (A/52/842) [118].
8. Pattern of conferences: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/52/734/Add.1) [119].
9. Financing of the United Nations Angola Verification Mission: Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/52/547/Add.1) [123 and 159].
10. Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara: report of the Fifth Committee (A/52/843) [125].
11. Financing of the United Nations Mission of Observers in Tajikistan: report of the Fifth Committee (A/52/844) [136].
12. Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti: report of the Fifth Committee (A/52/845) [141].
13. Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: Financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations: report of the Fifth Committee (Part III) (A/52/453/Add.2) [142 (a)].
14. Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services: report of the Fifth Committee (A/52/846) [143].
15. Human resources management: report of the Fifth Committee (Part II) (A/52/739/Add.1) [153].

SUMMARY OF SCHEDULED MEETINGS

Thursday, 26 March 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Resumed fifty-second session

Committees

FIFTH COMMITTEE

58th meeting

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments [17]

(e) United Nations Administrative Tribunal

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The Chairman of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to documents A/52/105/Add.1 and A/C.5/52/9/Add.1.

The Committee then decided, by acclamation, to recommend the appointment of Mr. Kevin Haugh (Ireland) as a member of the United Nations Administrative Tribunal to serve the remainder of the term of office of Mr. Francis Spain, beginning from the date adopted by the General Assembly, until 31 December 1998.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question.

Pattern of conferences [119]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 52/214

The representative of the United States proposed an amendment to draft decision A/C.5/52/L.26.

Statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and the United Kingdom (on behalf of the European Union).

The Assistant Secretary-General for Human Resources Management made a statement.

Financial reports and audited financial statements and reports of the Board of Auditors [113]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The representative of Latvia, coordinator of informal consultations on this item, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.28.

The representative of Uganda made a statement.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [114]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

(a) Working methods of the Fifth Committee

The Chairman of the Committee, in his capacity as coordinator of informal consultations on this question, made a statement and proposed to defer the question to the next resumed session.

(b) Report of the Secretary-General on a proposed United Nations Code of Conduct (A/52/488)

Following a proposal by the Chairman, statements were made by the representatives of New Zealand, the Syrian Arab Republic, the United States, Australia and the United Republic of Tanzania.

The Committee then decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it invite the International Civil Service Commission to examine the proposed Code of Conduct, as a matter of priority, at its forthcoming session, and request the Fifth Committee, to revert to this question at its resumed fifty-second session.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this question.

Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 [116]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

(a) Report of the Secretary-General on office accommodation at the Palais Wilson

The Chairman introduced and orally revised draft decision A/C.5/52/L.23/Rev.1

The Committee adopted the draft decision as orally revised.

Statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Cuba and Cameroon.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this question.

(b) Tenth report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the United Nations International Partnership Trust Fund

The Chairman made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China) and Latvia.

The Committee then decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions on the United Nations International Partnership Trust Fund (A/52/7/Add.9) and request the Secretary-General taking into account the comments made in the Committee (A/C.5/52/SR.56) to report to the General Assembly, on a regular basis, on the activities of the Trust Fund and other related matters.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this question.

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Tajikistan [136]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The representative of Algeria and Rapporteur of the Committee, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.25.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Financing of the United Nations Support Mission in Haiti [141]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to take note of the report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions contained in document A/52/818.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations [142]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The Chairman of the Committee introduced draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.27.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

Statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Ukraine, the United Kingdom (on behalf of the European Union and also on behalf of the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland, Romania, Slovakia and Cyprus), the United States, Slovakia, France, Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Mexico, China and the United Kingdom.

The Chairman of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to General Assembly resolutions 52/217 and 52/218 on the financing of the two criminal tribunals and recommended that the provisions of draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.27 be applied *pari passu* to the related assessments that had been issued for the international tribunals in 1998.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Human resources management [153]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

(a) *Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on use of consultants (A/52/814)*

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it decide to consider the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the audit of the use of consultants (A/52/814), in the context of its consideration of the comprehensive report of the Secretary-General on the engagement and the use of consultants, as requested by the General Assembly in paragraph 4 of section VI of its resolution 51/226 under the agenda item entitled "Human resources management", at its fifty-third session.

(b) *Report submitted by the Secretary-General on behalf of and with the approval of the members of the Administrative Committee on Coordination on the respect for the privileges and immunities of officials of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and related organizations (A/C.5/52/2)*

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote to recommend to the General Assembly that it decide to defer consideration of the report (A/C.5/52/2), to its fifty-third session.

The representative of Cuba made a statement.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Financing of the United Nations Observer Mission in Angola [159]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The representative of Ireland, coordinator of informal consultations on this agenda item introduced draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.29 on behalf of the Chairman.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [114]

The Committee continued its consideration of this agenda item.

(a) Procurement reform

The representative of Australia, coordinator of informal consultations on this question, informed the Committee on the results of informal consultations.

Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 [116]

The Committee continued its consideration of this agenda item.

(a) Ninth progress report by the Secretary-General on the Integrated Management Information System

The representative of Argentina, coordinator of informal consultations on this question, informed the Committee on the results of informal consultations.

Financing of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Prosecution of Persons Responsible for Genocide and Other Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law Committed in the Territory of Rwanda and Rwandan Citizens Responsible for Genocide and Other Such Violations Committed in the Territory of Neighbouring States between 1 January and 31 December 1994 [137]

The Committee resumed consideration of this agenda item.

Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services on the follow-up to the 1997 audit and investigation of the International Criminal Tribunal for Rwanda (A/52/784)

The representative of Canada, coordinator of informal consultations on this agenda item, informed the Committee on the results of informal consultations.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to postpone consideration of this agenda item to the next resumed session.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item at this stage.

Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara [125]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The representative of Ghana, coordinator of informal consultations on this agenda item, informed the Committee on the results of informal consultations.

Pattern of conferences [119]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 52/214

Statements were made by the representatives of Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Qatar (on behalf of the Organization of Islamic Conference), the United States, the Sudan, Pakistan, Morocco, the Russian Federation, Mexico, the United Kingdom (on behalf of the European Union), Canada Japan and Poland.

The representative of Canada moved the adjournment of the debate under Rule 116 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly.

The motion was rejected by 46 to 31

The representative of the Russian Federation spoke on a point of clarification.

The Secretary of the Committee responded to a question posed.

The representative of the United States proposed a further amendment to A/C.5/52/L.26.

Statements were made by the representatives of Pakistan, Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Azerbaijan, Cuba, Côte d'Ivoire, the Sudan, Egypt, the United States and Canada.

The Committee then, in accordance with rule 130 of the Rules of Procedure of the General Assembly voted on the amendment proposed by the United States which was rejected by 28 in favour, to 44 against with seven abstentions.

The Committee then proceeded to vote on draft decision A/C.5/52/L.26, which was adopted by 54 votes in favour, to 25 against with 2 abstentions.

Statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Mexico, the Russian Federation, the United Kingdom (on behalf of the European Union), Canada, Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), New Zealand, the Syrian Arab Republic, Australia, Japan, the United States, Côte d'Ivoire, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Republic of Korea, Argentina, the Sudan and the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya.

Organization of work

Statements were made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and Pakistan.

The Secretary of the Committee made a statement and responded to questions posed.

The Chairman also made a statement

Friday, 27 March 1998

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Resumed fifty-second session

Committees**FIFTH COMMITTEE**

59th meeting

Appointments to fill vacancies in subsidiary organs and other appointments [17]

(g) *United Nations Staff Pension Committee*

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The Chairman of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to documents A/C.5/52/11/Add.2 and Add.3.

The Chairman then informed the Committee that the Government of Benin had decided to withdraw its candidate.

The Committee then decided, by acclamation, to recommend the appointment of Mr. Nestor Odaga-Jalomayo (Uganda) as a member of the United Nations Joint Staff Pension Fund from the date of appointment by the General Assembly, until 31 December 2000.

The Committee thus concluded its consideration of this agenda item at this stage.

Financing of the United Nations Mission for the Referendum in Western Sahara [125]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

The representative of Ghana, coordinator of informal consultations, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.30 on behalf of the Chairman.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

The representative of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of Morocco and Algeria.

Joint Inspection Unit [118]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it defer consideration of agenda item 118 entitled "Joint Inspection Unit" to its next resumed fifty-second session.

Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services [143]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it defer consideration of agenda item 143 entitled "Report of the Secretary-General on the activities of the Office of Internal Oversight Services" to its next resumed fifty-second session.

Review of the efficiency of the administrative and financial functioning of the United Nations [114]

The Committee resumed its consideration of this agenda item.

Procurement reform

The representative of Australia, coordinator of informal consultations on this question, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.31 on behalf of the Chairman.

The Acting Assistant Secretary-General for Central Common Services made a statement.

Statements were made by the representatives of Tunisia, France and Pakistan.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution.

Statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), the Syrian Arab Republic, the Russian Federation, Turkey, Uganda, Pakistan, Canada and India.

The Chairman made a statement.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Programme budget for the biennium 1996-1997 [115]

Programme budget for the biennium 1998-1999 [116]

The Committee resumed its consideration of these agenda items.

Ninth progress report by the Secretary-General on the Integrated Management Information System

The representative of Argentina, coordinator of informal consultations on this question, introduced draft resolution A/C.5/52/L.32 submitted under agenda item 116 and draft decision A/C.5/52/L.33 submitted under agenda item 115 on behalf of the Chairman, following informal consultations.

Statements were made by the representatives of France and Egypt.

The Committee adopted, without a vote, the draft resolution and the draft decision.

Statements in explanation of position were made by the representatives of Egypt, Japan and Cuba.

The Acting Assistant Secretary-General for Central Common Services made a statement.

The Committee thus concluded this stage of its consideration of this agenda item.

Pattern of Conferences [119]

Report of the Secretary-General on measures in order to ensure the necessary resources for the upgrading of conference rooms and interpretation booths

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the report of the Secretary-General contained in document A/52/829 on the upgrading of conference rooms and interpretation booths.

Documentation related to the Conference on Standardization of Geographical Names

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it decide, without prejudice to the relevant rules of procedure governing the Conference on Standardization of Geographical Names, that the documents related to that Conference which were issued by the Secretariat should be translated into six official languages.

A statement in explanation of position was made by the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic.

Press releases

The Chairman of the Committee drew the attention of the Committee to a previous meeting at which the representative of the Department of Public Information had assured the Committee that, since the nature of the issues being discussed in the Fifth Committee were of a technical and political nature, press officers to be assigned to cover its proceedings would be on a regular and continuing basis.

Implementation of General Assembly resolution 52/214B, paragraphs 24 and 25

On the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided, without a vote, to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note that documents were not being submitted as required under paragraphs 24 and 25 of resolution 52/214B, and emphasize that the provisions of those paragraphs should be fully implemented.

Closure of the work of the Fifth Committee for the first part of the fifty-second resumed session of the General Assembly

Statements were made by the representatives of India, Indonesia (on behalf of the Group of 77 and China), Pakistan, Uganda, Japan, the Philippines (on behalf of the ASEAN Countries) and Cuba.

The Chairman made a statement and informed the Committee that the next resumed session will be held from 11 to 29 May 1998.

The Chairman declared the work of the Fifth Committee for the first part of the fifty-second resumed session of the General Assembly concluded.

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